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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

Application: 10/554,044 § Applicant: LECHOT, Andre et al
Filing Date: 10/20/2005 § Title of Invention: SURGICAL RATCHET
Docket No: PUS-P001-037-N § Art Unit: 3761

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR §1.8. I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office

On August 4, 2006

Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate: Irmette Scheiwiller

Signature of person signing this certificate: [Signature]

REQUEST FOR CORRECTION OF FILING RECEIPT

Via fax to: 001-571-273-8300

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
USA

Dear Sir,

We refer to your Filing Receipt dated July 18, 2006, Confirmation No. 2835, concerning our above-mentioned patent application. While verifying the data associated with the applicant Philippe Fehlbaum, we found the country entry incorrect.

Kindly correct the country to read **Switzerland** (instead of Australia) on the Filing Receipt.

Please also correct the title of the patent application on the Filing Receipt to read **Surgical ratchet** (instead of Detachable surgical ratchet). See enclosed two pages, copies of "Transmittal letter ... concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371" and "As filed".

It is believed that no fee is due for this correction as the error is one of the Patent Office.

Thank you in advance for your efforts. For questions please contact the undersigned at sherman@patentinfo.net or at 011-4171-230-1000 or fax at 011-4171-230-1001.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherman D. Pernia

U.S. Reg. No. 34,404

US and International Patent and Trademark
Attorney-at-law

Encl: - copy of Filing Receipt
- copy of "Transmittal letter..."
- copy of "As filed"



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APPL NO	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/554,044	10/20/2005	3761	450	PUS-P001-037	7	14	3

51184
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RECU le

CONFIRMATION NO. 2835

FILING RECEIPT



OC000000019609660

Date Mailed: 07/18/2006

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Andre Lechot, Orvin, SWITZERLAND;
 Philippe Fehlbaum, Lignieres, ~~AUSTRALIA~~ *SWITZERLAND*

Assignment For Published Patent Application

Precimed SA

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 51184.

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/IB04/01244 04/23/2004
 which claims benefit of 60/465,758 04/25/2003

Foreign Applications

Projected Publication Date: 10/19/2006

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

** SMALL ENTITY **

Title

~~Detachable~~ surgical ratchet

PTO-1390 (Rev. 07-2005)

Approved for use through 3/31/2007. OMB 0651-0021

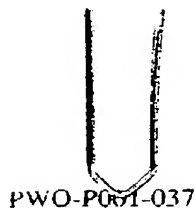
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TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER PUS-P001-037
		U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5)
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/IB2004/001244	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 03/23/2004	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 04/25/2003
TITLE OF INVENTION SURGICAL RATCHET		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US LECHOT, Andre; FEHLBAUM, Philippe		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31).</p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</p> <p>10. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</p> <p>Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:</p> <p>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment.</p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76.</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</p> <p>16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.</p> <p>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821- 1.825.</p> <p>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p>		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.414 and 1.491-1.492. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 15 minutes to complete including gathering information, preparing, and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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AS FILED

SURGICAL RATCHET

Background of the Invention

This invention relates to drivers for rotary surgical cutting tools, and, more particularly, to drivers used in maxillo-facial, neuro, dental, trauma and orthopedic surgery, including reamer drivers.

Surgical ratchets are complicated mechanical devices which have crevices and recesses that, heretofore, have been difficult, if not almost impossible to clean with ease. Devices that are not properly cleaned and sterilized run the risk of disease transfer from patient to patient following the emergence of certain "prions" that are not killed by normal hospital sterilisation and need to be physically removed by washing / rinsing. For this reason, in the prior art, ratchet mechanisms have been hermetically sealed to prevent contamination. However, the seals are not 100% reliable.

What is needed therefore is a surgical ratchet that is easily disassemblable for cleaning, so as to better ensure sterilization.

Summary of the Invention

A surgical ratchet assembly includes a handle, a driver, a ratcheting mechanism and a locking mechanism. The driver is received within the handle in a rotatable relationship with respect thereto. The ratcheting mechanism is interposed between the handle and the driver. The ratcheting mechanism includes pawls which can be selectively locked out of engagement with a toothed hub via a selector. A locking mechanism releasably holds the handle to the ratchet mechanism. Unlocking of the locking mechanism enables ready disassembly of the assembly for cleaning and component sterilization.

Although the term "driver" is used herein, this term is meant to encompass drills, taps, guide pins, screwdrivers (for example, straight, cross-head, Allen key and Torx), reamer drivers, and wire introducers and any tool to which rotation and torque need be applied.

In another feature, the selector includes a position in which both pawls are in an engaged position, thus locking the ratchet mechanism against free movement in either direction.